

- (i) Establishment of Mega Food Parks in identified clusters with appropriate backward and forward linkages.
- (ii) Creation of integrated cold chains/value addition and preservation infrastructure.
- (iii) Modernization of abattoirs.
- (iv) Upgradation of hygienic and quality street food and food streets. •
- (v) Establishment and upgradation of quality control laboratories.
- (vi) Restructuring and strengthening of MFPI.
- (vii) Rationalising tax structure.
- (viii) Incentivising FDI and private investment in infrastructure.
- (ix) Undertaking capacity building of small and unorganized sector.
- (x) Liberalized wine and beer policy.
- (xi) Launching a major promotional campaign for the food processing sector.
- (xii) Need for larger public investment for creation of critical rural infrastructure in food processing sector.

The strategic interventions required for the growth of the food processing sector have been included in the Eleventh Plan proposals.

Requirement of food processing facilities

2883. DR. K. MALAISAMY: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

- (a) the requirement of food processing facilities and the availability of such facilities, State-wise;
- (b) whether it is a fact that a huge quantity of products suffer from want of facilities leading to heavy loss to the producers/farmers;
- (c) the allocation made for cold storages/warehousing facilities and how much has been utilized during the last three years; and
- (d) whether there is a subsidy component in this process and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAY): (a) and (b) Shortage of adequate processing and related infrastructural facilities is a major constraint in the development of the Food Processing Industry in the country. According to the report of M/s. Rabo India Finance Pvt. Ltd. wastage of agricultural food items is estimated to be about Rs. 58,000 crores occurring at various stages of handling after harvesting due to fragmented farming, lack of adequate post-harvest infrastructure such a lack of cold chain facilities, transportation, proper storage facilities, etc. The loss due to wastage could be reduced by a developed food processing industry, strengthening of the post-harvest infrastructure and filling the gaps in the supply chain.

(c) and (d) The outlay (Revised estimates) for the scheme of Infrastructure Development which includes Cold Storages during the last three financial years *viz.* 2004-05, 2005-06 and 2006-07 was Rs. 10.00 crores, Rs. 10.00 crores and Rs. 12.30 crores respectively which was fully utilized. The Ministry of Food Processing Industries, under its Tenth Plan Scheme (closed on 31st March, 2007) provided financial assistance in form of grant in aid @25% of the cost of Plant and Machinery and technical civil works in general areas and 33.33% in difficult areas with a common ceiling of Rs. 75.00 lakhs, for cold storages for non-horticulture produce, specific types of specialized cold storages with controlled Atmosphere/Modified Atmosphere facility, and where the cold storage is an integral part of the processing unit or of the common facilities in food park. Under this scheme, Cold Storages under Integrated Cold Chain facilities component received assistance of Rs. 21.13 lakh, Rs. 142.49 lakh and Rs. 226.59 lakh for the years 2004-05, 2005-06 and 2006-07 respectively. A revised scheme for Integrated Cold Chain Infrastructure with higher level of assistance has been proposed for Eleventh Plan Scheme, for strengthening of the post-harvest infrastructure and filling the gaps in the integrated supply chain.

Problems faced by food processing sector

2884. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the challenges like antiquated